

Approved FSTF Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2023

Present: Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Meredith Terrell; Emily Cohen (Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing); Priti Rane (SFDPH –Maternal Child and Adolescent Health); Tiffany Kearney (Department of Disability and Aging Services); Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign); Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF); Guillermo Reece (SF African American Faith Based Coalition); Jeimil Belamide (San Francisco Human Services Agency); Meg Davidson (SF Marin Food Bank); Geoffrey Grier (Recovery Theatre); Raegan Sales (Children’s Council of SF)

Also Present: Lea Troeh (UCSF); Anthony Khalil (BVHP Community Advocates); Andy Naja-Riese (Agricultural Institute of Marin); Karimah Hay (Agricultural Institute of Marin); Aarya Chidambaram (BVHP Community Advocates); Alex Maykowski (Children’s Council of San Francisco); Asha Chirackal; Austin Dalmasso (Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation; Healthy Retail); Brittany Panela (Agricultural Institute of Marin); Campbell Barbee; Cathy Huang (SF HSA Food Access); Cindy Lin (SF HSA Food Access); Carolyn Lasar (SF Market); Dalila Adolfo (BVHP Community Advocates); Ellen Garcia (EatSF); Fiona McBride (SF HSA Food Access); Gabriela; George Gundry; Haley Nielsen (Farming Hope); Jordan Brown (UCSF); Kevin Liu (Project Open Hand); Kim Wong (SFDPH – CHEP); Kristi Friesen (Project Open Hand); La Rhonda Reddic (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Leah Walton; Lex Dailey (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Maggie Shugerman (BVHP Community Advocates); Marianne Szeto (ShapeUp SF Coalition); Patty Baldwin; Reese Isbell (SFDPH – Office of Health Equity); Serena Ngo (Hirsch Philanthropy Partners); Stanford Ronald McDonald House; Stephanie Won (Leah’s Pantry); Susie Smith (Human Service Agency); Tiffany Dang (Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS); Tommy McClain (UCSF); Veronica Shepard (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Danielle Lundstrom (SFDPH-Maternal Child Adolescent Health); DeJanelle Bovell (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Gwen Westbrook (United Council for Human Services/Mother Browns)

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
1. Call order to order	Meeting called to order at 1:35 pm.	None.
2. Land Acknowledgement	Cissie Bonini recited the Land Acknowledgement.	None.
3. Welcome, member roll call, introductions, Cissie Bonini (Chair, EatSF/Vouchers4Veggies)	Cissie read the roll call, and other meeting attendees introduced themselves in the chat. Public Comment: N/A	None.

<p>4. Approval of minutes from January 11, 2023</p>	<p>Jeimil Belamide (HSA) requested the following change in section 9 of the January meeting minutes: Change the reported number in his section from \$12-14 to approximately \$12 million.</p> <p>Move made to approve with corrections by Chester Williams and seconded by Tiffaney Kearney. Motion passed with corrections.</p>	<p>FSTF staff to upload approved January meeting minutes to FSTF site.</p>
<p>5. General Public Comment 1:37 p.m.</p>	<p>Public Comment: N/A</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>6. Presentation - Update from Agricultural Institute of Marin (AIM) on San Francisco Food Programs, Karimah Hay (AIM Rollin Root Manager) Brittany Panela (AIM Program Assistant) and Andy Naja-Riese (AIM Chief Executive Officer)</p>	<p>Andy Naja-Riese introduced the present AIM team members and provided a background of their organization. Andy Naja-Riese shared that AIM works with eaters, communities, farmers and producers. AIM connects those that catch and gather our food with consumers in a responsible way. Policy at the local, state, and federal level is important to engage with to support AIM'S 10 Guiding Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ AIM'S Guiding Principles: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen local and regional food systems. 2. Enhance opportunities for small to mid-size producers. 3. Promote short supply chains: from the producer to shopper. 4. Encourage responsible production of agriculture, food, and artisan products with an emphasis on organic and regenerative practices. 5. Promote integrity and transparency in our markets. 6. Provide education on the farm, in the classroom, at the market, and online. 7. Support and influence policy by advocating for a healthier, equitable food system. 8. Address food-related racial and economic inequalities among producers, shoppers, and communities. 9. Promote access to healthy, nutrient-dense foods among all people. 10. Commit to climate action. ▫ The Need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Despite being a great place to live, there are stark inequities in access to food. In San Francisco, 1 in 4 residents at risk of food insecurity – largely affecting low-income households of color. Additional information found on slide 8 of their presentation. 	<p>None.</p>

	<p>Karimah Hay continued to presented on the their programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ The Rollin Root: Mobile Farmers Market has helped AIM understand barriers in achieving their organizational goals to increase equitable access to fresh, healthy food grown on local farms/farmers and to provide nutrition education in underserved communities or to anyone that stop by their truck. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Rollin’ Root is a food truck stocked with seasonal fruits, rice, granola, vegetables, and dairy products from the farmers’ market. ▫ Ordering for the week ahead is done by Wednesday the week before. AIM tries to work out a price with farmers to keep prices as low as possible on the truck as possible while still supporting them. ▫ Karimah Hay (AIM) shared the schedules and times of their Marin and San Francisco route stops on slides 13-14 of their presentation. ▫ Nutritional Education Lessons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AIM is working with a translator to create resources in English, Spanish, Cantonese. ▫ Rollin Root SF Ambassadors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Serve as the face of Rollin Root in a particular community. People are provided \$100 stipend/month to spend time at the stop for an hour. A lot of Ambassadors are invested so they pass out flyers, sharing it online and other places to get the word out on their own time. The Ambassadors are a huge part of the Rollin Root. ▫ Nutrition Benefit Programs Stretch Food Dollars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Karimah shared the benefits AIM can accept on slide 17. Examples include: Health Bucks, VeggieRXBucks, and EatSF Food Vouchers) – What is Market Match? If you spend up to \$20 you get half off your total price. Any total amount above \$20 gets \$10 off automatically. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Senior Farmer Market Nutrition Bonus Bucks: Older adults who receive an additional \$25 benefit. They are also given a \$5 coupon that they can spend with us. It is essentially free food. ▫ San Francisco Farmers Markets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AIM is aware of 9 farmers markets across the bay area, two are in San Francisco year-round. They are community oriented and are the top two redeemers to EBT and market match. We see the demand growing as more people apply for these benefits. – Clement St (Richmond) – Stonestown ▫ Equitable Formers Supports: Exists to better supply black/brown farmers and community members with what’s needed to start and sustain their farm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Racial Equity Fund: A private fund we award to new farmers to offset the costs of starting a new farm. 16 farmers have been awarded already. – Bounty Box: We collaborate with FreshApproach, HSA and other organizations to pack boxes. 75-90 boxes go to the Booker T Washington: Community service center site every Thursday. Pictures can be found on slide 21. This program launched in 2020 – BIPOC Incubator Booth: The program is designed to support a total of 27 farmers, partners, and clients over the next three years, helping them explore and expand into farmers market channels. The program creates an opportunity for these farms to sell at three of AIM’s farmers markets over the course of a year. The participants rotate through a location every couple of months so they can cultivate and deepen customer relationships within different communities, while providing a broader selection of healthy, culturally relevant food to consumers. ▫ Coming Soon: A New Culturally Responsive Communications Strategy 	
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- AIM’s focus is on solidarity and authentic relationships with the communities they serve and help community members experience dignity in access food resources.
- Additional details on AIM’s approach can be found on slide 22.

▫ Conclusions:

- AIM’s programs have made it easier for people of low income to access food and have a more nutritious lifestyle.
- The Rollin’ Root has created meaningful change in the systems and environment of nutrition access for Bay Area older adults and families.
- The Rollin’ Root is increasing AIM’s capacity to connect farmers with older adult communities, teaching important nutrition lessons in the process of supporting farms.
- AIM anticipates continued growth of this program, increasing the number of participants over time, with outcomes that show an increase in consumption of fruits and vegetables.

FSTF Member Comments:

Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity) asked: Thank you for providing a bigger picture of all that you do. Can you speak more to the EBT sales in the SF markets? Are you observing any trends or changes? Do you have market match all year or seasonally? Andy Naja-Riese responded: We’ve seen a ~200% increase in market match and EBT transactions. All SF markets accept EBT year-round. We provide \$10 of market match funds per person per day. I don’t have exact statistics, but we can add in the presentation when it is shared.

Raegan Sales (Children’s Council of SF): It has been great to learn about AIM’s reach in SF. Regarding the Trilingual Nutrition Education Resources, are they available for community partners to use? Who is the contact person? Andy Naja-Riese (AIM) responded: We are happy to share any resources. Check with Karimah Hay.

Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign): Thank you for the presentation, we appreciate the work you're doing. It seems that over the years, we're beginning to find a way of having a core program. When you pick up from Oakland and come into SF, what do you do when you run out of something or a particular food? Karimah Hay (AIM) responded: I order based off previous week sales. If we run out, we just know that next week we'll order a bit more. Chester Williams: Thank you.

Priti Rane (SFDPH – Nutrition Services): Clement takes WIC and EBT (cash benefit on a card) Andy Naja-Riese responded (AIM): Both markets we discussed accept WIC program vouchers. As WIC is going to EBT, there is a pilot that specific farmers can join to accept WIC. They're limited the number of folks that can participate. AIM provides tokens as it is a barrier for farmers to get verified. Farmer's markets could accept WIC-EBT but it's not the state's policy. Priti Rane (SFDPH – Nutrition Services): Thank you for the feedback.

Tiffany Kearney (DAAS): Department of Disability and Aging Services usually receives a book of farmers market coupons to distribute. I vaguely remember a conversation with AIM about these. Karimah Hay (AIM) responded: We talked about bonus bucks in this presentation. The book you're talking about are senior checks given by the state. We don't accept those; it has to be spent at the farmer's market. The program vouchers can be accepted at the farmers market but not the rolling root. The state won't let us accept WIC at the Rollin Root. There's no qualifying store from the state level.

Veronica Shepard (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): Where is the truck located in the Bayview? Can you provide an update on days and times as well. Brittany Panella (AIM) shared the following schedule for the Rollin' Root truck every Saturday rain or shine.

- Visitacion Valley (10am - 11:30am)
- Visitacion Valley Greenway: 144 Leland Avenue and Peabody

- Bayview (12:30pm - 1:30pm)
- Calibird Pollinator Sanctuary - Oakdale Gate: 1820 Palou Ave, San Francisco
- Fillmore (2:30pm - 3:30pm)
- New Liberation Community Garden: Divisadero and Eddy

Andy Naja-Riese (AIM): Our Bayview stop is at Calibird Pollinator Sanctuary - Oakdale Gate - 1820 Palou Ave, San Francisco

Raegan Sales (Children's Council of SF) added to the chat: Love this - I got some beautiful rainbow chard from the incubator booth last Sunday.

Haley Nielsen (Farming Hope): Rollin Root ambassador Jacey is a Farming Hope graduate, love all the connections we make in this community!

Anthony Khalil (BVHP Advocates): Shoutout to Brittney and Pamela as main conduits in supplying food support in our neighborhoods and providing developments of the new stop in the neighborhood at the Calibird Pollinator Sanctuary. It is not the first-time mobile markets have come to the neighborhood. What might make this distinct? What challenges are you running into?

Any Naja-Riese (AIM) responded: Partnership with Dragon Spunk at the Stonestown Farmers Market on Sundays. We have a coffee vendor, library books and our ambassadors that support the communities we serve.

Veroncia Shepard (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): Can your organization come to other events in high risk populations? I'll share my contact information in the chat. Veronica.shepard@sfdph.org

Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF): Since we have run out of time, please connect offline for this and remaining questions.

	Public Comment integrated into the above section.	
7. Food Empowerment Market update, Maggie Shugerman (D10 Liaison to the Project Consultant to Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services)	<p>Maggie Shugerman provided the following updates for the Food Empowerment Market (FEM). The FEM team is in the process of finalizing a contractor.</p> <p>In February, the team will be launching a newsletter with market updates and local events. Please contact Maggie Shugerman via email to be put on the mailing list.</p> <p>There will be a Community Stakeholder Meeting on Feb 17 @ 9am. Please email to be added to the list: maggie.shugerman@bhpmss.org</p> <p>FSTF Member Comment: N/A Public Comment: N/A</p>	None.
8. District 10 Food Planning Project, Dalila Adofo (Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates Policy Program Coordinator)	<p>Dalila Adofo is facilitating the D10 convening with 14 organizations that do direct service of food. The Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates produced budget recommendations for the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) and moving to policy recommendations next. If anyone knows of other organizations that serves District 10 that aren't at the table, please send them our way.</p> <p>The next planning meeting is February 21st at noon, virtually. Please contact her at: Dalila@bvhpadvocates.org</p> <p>FSTF Member Comment:</p> <p>Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): Thank you for coming. Regarding the meeting for convening, are you looking for community organizations/agencies that already have services? Dalila Adolfo (BVHP Advocates) responded: Priority is given to community organizations to make sure they're represented but we don't have a closed table. We are open to city agencies or members of the Food Security Task Force. We know</p>	None.

	<p>the system of how residents get food is large. We'll be discussing our recommendations until July with direct service providers and community organizations.</p> <p>Question asked: Do you have a timeline? Will you be focusing on D10? Dalila Adolfo responded: The Grant from OEWD is for the rest of the fiscal year but I believe our organization would love to keep it going.</p> <p>Guillermo Reece (SFAAFBC): Thank you. If you have any additional information, I'd be happy to disseminate it through the rest of the task force. Thank you for coming and presenting with us.</p> <p>Public Comment:</p> <p>Veronica Shepard (DPH- Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): asked: Is there a website with all the BVHPCA efforts? Dalila Adolfo responded: Hi All, here is the folder containing past notes for D10 Food Security Convening and the budget recommendations that were submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aYYQo5CB9C9LEk9JS89Tcxa7uWJOD_e?usp=share_link. - Here is our website as well. https://bvhpadvocates.org/ 	
<p>9. Discussion on FSTF 2023 Recommendations and meetings with stakeholders, Cissie Bonini (Chair - Vouchers 4 Veggies/EatSF)</p>	<p>Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) shared the most recent recommendations that have been updated from last year. On page 2 you can find the 5 recommendation buckets. The structure of the 2023 recommendations is a combination of data and points from participants. Key points of the report: Food insecurity remains high, and folks can receive multiple services. Data behind that statement is highlighted on page 3.</p> <p>Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity) added: We know agencies have improved in asking standard questions. We're trying to collect the samples provided to understand what's happening to certain populations. Here we looked at program participation. The samples on page</p>	<p>FSTF staff to post recommendations to the sg.gov site and share final pdf over email.</p>

3 do tell us something about the food security population, even though we know it's not population level data.

Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) continued: Threats, in terms of the rollbacks and HSA programs that are at risk of losing funding, can be found on page 5. We share some successes on pages 5-6. The Recommendations that will be presented can be found on page 7.

Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): If anyone sees anything wrong and has any comments, email paula.jones@sfdph.org and I'm happy to make changes. Until then, we believe this will be our final version to be presented. Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) continued: In terms of next steps, I'll be setting up meetings with key stakeholders.

Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): The recommendations will be posted on the landing page of the new FSTF site, and we will send it out over email. I will send out the low-res version tonight so that it doesn't take up too much space in your email.

Department Representative Meetings:

- Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) will share language anyone can use to set up meetings with department heads. Paula and Cissie both participate in all meetings. Meeting can start being scheduled any time after the end this week. There is always FSTF members welcome. We're meeting with supervisors that can provide help. These meetings are not to advocate but to support the recommendations. If you want to participate, let Cissie Bonini, Paula Jones, and Jordan Brown know.
- Jordan Brown's email: Jordan.brown2@ucsf.edu
- Paula Jones's email: paula.jones@sfdph.org
- Cissie Bonini's email: cissie.bonini@ucsf.edu

FSTF Member Comment:

	<p>Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign): Are these meetings in person or virtual? Cissie Bonini (Eatsf/Vouchers4Veggies): It will be up to the preference of the supervisor and the head of the department.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) noted a couple thumbs up were given in support of the shown recommendations.</p> <p>Meg Davidson (SF Marin Food Bank): It would be cool to get more members of the public there. I wonder what the barriers are for those interested. I think these conversations can be really empowering. We recommend your participation at these meetings to represent decisions that will be made about your community. I wonder what would make people feel more comfortable.</p> <p>Paula Jones (SFDPH Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity) reminded the group that the Food Security Task force is a public body created by the Board of Supervisors and the purpose is to make recommendations on policies, programs, and funding to improve food security.</p> <p>Meg Davidson (SF Marin Food Bank) added to the chat: Also want to clarify that meeting with elected officials to educate them doesn't jeopardize your 501c3 non-profit status. These types of meetings aren't considered lobbying.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) shared finally: There is more to come.</p> <p>Public Comment: N/A</p>	
10. Food Security Task Force member updates	<p>Jeimil Belamide (HSA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ CalFresh caseload as of Dec 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approx. 75k households ○ Approx 102k individuals ▫ Policy Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ COVID-19 related CalFresh benefits known as Emergency Allotments are ending in Feb 2023. Since March 2020, 	None.

	<p>Emergency Allotments increased a CalFresh household's monthly benefit up to the maximum benefit amount for their household's size. The last Emergency Allotment will be issued in March 2023. CalFresh households will begin to feel the decrease of CalFresh benefits in April 2023. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will be sending mailers and text messages from 1/17/23 – 2/6/23 to inform participants of the upcoming change. SFHSA has updated our call center recording to inform the public and as we approach April 2023, we plan to update our website and leverage social media to inform CalFresh households about other local resources that can assist in meeting their food/nutritional needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▫ The CalFresh Interview requirement continues to be waived until March 31, 2023. As the Federal government signals that it will declare the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency over on May 11th, 2023, this could mean that the CalFresh Interview requirement will return in June 2023. county social service agencies are still waiting for official directions and guidance from CDSS. <p>Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▫ FSTF Membership Update: We were hoping Meredith Terrell could speak to this; we will have two new openings on the FSTF. This is Meredith's last meeting as she will be taking a new position with the City. Rita Mouton-Patterson (Hospitality House) also took a new job and isn't able to continue on the task force. The Clerk of the Board knows we have two additional seats. This is an addition to the three open seats we are trying to currently fill.▫ Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies/EatSF) responded: Huge thank you to Rita Mouton-Patterson (Hospitality House) who has been participating for many years and has been a great voice for the community. Your time with the task force has been greatly appreciated. We are sorry to see both Rita and Meredith go.	
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	<p>Public Comment:</p> <p>Veronica Shepard (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity): Congratulations to your transitions. You’ve been a great advocate for this work, thank you for your work/effort.</p>	
11. Adjournment	Meeting concluded 2:47pm	None.